

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/973,036

Examiner

Michael O'Neill

Applicant(s)

NAKAZATO, TAKAYOSHI

Art Unit

3713

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8-23-04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 10-14 and 16-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 October 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



MICHAEL O'NEILL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 10, line 1: replace "(Previously Presented)" with -- (Currently Amended) --.

The Examiner's Amendment is being done to correct the status identifier of claim 10.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record lacks in disclosing or teaching the combination of limitations identified below for each claim:

Claim 1 and those that depend therefrom: a recognizer that recognizes a target position of said player's character, which is fixed in said game field, and a position of said player's character within said game field, wherein said display

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controller displays an indicator for said target position for said player's character in said larger predetermined area when said target position is in said larger predetermined area of said same field, and when said target position of said player's character cannot be displayed in said larger the predetermined area, said display controller displays an indicator for indicating a direction to said target position, the indicator being located in a vicinity of an edge of said second display area in accordance with a recognition result by said recognizer.

Claim 4 and those that depend therefrom: recognizing a target position of the player's character, which is fixed in the game field, and a position of the player's character within the game field; and displaying an indicator for the target position of the player's character in the larger predetermined area when the target position is in the larger predetermined area of the game field, and when the target position of the player's character cannot be displayed in the larger predetermined area, displaying an indicator for indicating a direction toward the target position, the indicator being displayed in a vicinity of an edge of the second display area in accordance with a recognition result of recognizing the target position.

Claim 10 and those that depend therefrom: a recognition program for recognizing a target position of said player's

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character, which is fixed in said game field with the advance of said game, and a position of said player's character within said game field, wherein said display control program displays an indicator for said target position for said player's character in the larger predetermined area when said target position is in said larger predetermined area of said game field, and when said target position of said player's character cannot be displayed in the determined area, said display control program displays an indicator for indicating a direction toward said target position in the vicinity of an edge of said second display area in accordance with a recognition result by said recognition program.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."



MICHAEL O'NEILL
PRIMARY EXAMINER